

Message Text

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43

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3139

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (FILBINGER, HANS) GW EAID

SUBJ: VISIT OF MINISTER PRESIDENT FILBINGER:

REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT WITH MR. MCNAMARA

REF: STUTTGART 1107

1. MINISTER PRESIDENT FILBINGER'S OFFICE HAS INFORMED ME THAT THEY ARE ASKING THE GERMAN EMBASSY TO "SQUEEZE IN" AN APPOINTMENT WITH MR. MCNAMARA, PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD BANK, OCTOBER 21, AND IF THIS FAILS, ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 22 OR SATURDAY OCTOBER 23. INITIALLY THE STAATSMINISTERIUM HAD REQUESTED WE ASSIST IN SETTING UP MEETING WITH MCNAMARA. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING APPARENTLY IS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE WAYS FOR BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG FIRMS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WORLD BANK CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROVIDING INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

2. INDUSTRY IN BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG IS HEAVILY DEPENDENT (25 PERCENT) ON EXPORTS AND IS COMPOSED LARGELY OF MEDIUM-SIZED FIRMS WHICH PACK STRONG ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WALLOP IN THIS AREA. INDUSTRY HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN THE PAST IN PERSUADING MINISTER PRESIDENT FILBINGER TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS (E.G. WITH THE SHAH OF IRAN) THAT MIGHT LEAD TO EXPORT ORDERS FOR LOCAL FIRMS.

3. I TOLD MINISTER PRESIDENT FILBINGER'S AIDE (KRAMER), WHO

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WILL ACCOMPANY HIM, THAT WE WOULD ALERT THE DEPARTMENT TO THE

REQUEST BEING LAID ON THE GERMAN EMBASSY. MINISTER PRESIDENT APPARENTLY FEELS THAT DEPARTMENTAL ENDORSEMENT OF THIS REQUEST FOR AN APPOINTMENT ON SHORT NOTICE MIGHT HELP IF THE EMBASSY ENCOUNTERS DIFFICULTY. I WAS NON-COMMITAL. FILBEINGER AND HIS PARTY DEPART STUTTGART OCTOBER 15 FOR GEORGIA, WHERE THEY WILL BE GUESTS OF GOVERNOR BUSBEE, BEFORE ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON OCTOBER 21. JENKINS

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